

BIG DIAMOND

HILLSBORO
LIGHTHOUSE
PRESERVATION
SOCIETY

January 2017
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RECENT TOUR

JUDY KNOEBEL BY ANNE SIREN—THE POMPAÑO PELICAN

Judy Knoebel, 72, died October 25 after a short illness. Ms. Knoebel, who retired from a 31-year career with AT&T that spanned New Zealand, Brussels, Belgium; Geneva, Switzerland, and Atlanta, GA., chose to settle in Pompano Beach.

The following is composed from excerpts of a 2013 interview with Judy, who spoke with Pompano Pelican writer, Phyllis Neuberger. "Volunteering was a way to make new friends and get the feeling of really living in the area. It works well for me, and like most volunteers, I receive more than I give."

Judy was an active member, manager and director of the Hillsboro Lighthouse Preservation Society, where she volun-

(Continued on page 4)



110TH ANNIVERSARY GALA DINNER—MARCH 10TH

Close your eyes and picture this....

A soft breeze, the calming sound of the ocean's waves as it gently kisses the full moon rising, a beautiful lighthouse, live music from the Earl Trio and, the master chef from Hugh's catering... Join us at the Hillsboro Inlet Lighthouse on **March 10th, 2017 from 6-10 PM** for a full moon Fundraising Gala. Be dazzled by the "Big Diamond" under the stars, for night to remember. The Hillsboro Inlet Lighthouse Preservation Society, (HLPS) in historical Pompano Beach, is hosting our first Fundraising Gala. Wear your best black and white cocktail attire in honor of the 110th Anniversary of this stunning, one of a kind lighthouse. Tickets can be purchased for \$110.00 per person and include the ultimate culinary experience at the best venue on the planet!

<http://hillsborogala.eventbrite.com>

(Continued on page 5)



January 7, 2017

FROM THE PRESIDENT

It is both with a sad and joyous heart that the HLPS brings the year 2016 to an end.

First the bad news. On October 25th 2016, one of the HLPS's own board of directors, managers, volunteers and members passed away. Judy Knoebel was admired, respected and loved. She had been with our organization for many years as both a member and volunteer before becoming the museum manger and finally a director on our board. Please read the article in this edition to learn more about this truly amazing and generous woman.

Fortunately for us, 2016 was very light on tragic type of news such as this and heavy on much happier news. For instance, we completed a good number of projects related to the lighthouse maintenance, restoration and preservation along with having the most successful year for number of visitors. Also in 2016, our membership count is up from 2015, we now have a healthy number of volunteers, we had another successful membership meeting, we maintained an active online presence and we introduced another mechanism for increasing membership with Groupon. All in all, 2016 was a very active and prosperous year for the HLPS. All this success goes to our volunteers (none of whom are paid) and to you our members for your support and generous donations. It is all greatly appreciated.

Now for the coming year of 2017. First, this is the lighthouse's 110th anniversary year. To celebrate this momentous occasion, we are planning both a prestigious gala event and a weekend full of public tours in the month of March (the anniversary month).

The gala event will be held on Friday, March 10th, which will occur on the full moon for the month of March. The gala will be a semi-formal, fully catered event with private tours of the lens room while operating at night. A very rare event indeed. For more details and ticket reservations, see the other sections in this publication about the event. There will be a limited number of tickets available, so don't wait until the last minute to reserve your spot.

The public tour anniversary weekend will be on both March 11th and March 12th. To celebrate the occasion, we plan on having live music, food, a birthday cake, vendors and other activities to augment our normal tour fare. We also plan on having the lens room open for the viewing public. So, don't miss it.

Finally, our annual membership meeting will be one month prior, on Saturday,

(Continued on page 4)

The mission of the Hillsboro Lighthouse Preservation Society is to promote the history of the Hillsboro Inlet Light Station and the Hillsboro Inlet area through preservation of structures and artifacts, education and public access tours.

HLPS OFFICERS AND VOLUNTEERS

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Big Diamond

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Ralph Krugler - Hib Casselberry

Steve Smith - Kim Zeman

Holly Brown - Mary Martin

2017 HILLSBORO LIGHT STATION TOUR SCHEDULE

Hillsboro Lighthouse 2017 Tour Dates



January 7th (Sat.) – Alsdorf Park 9:00, 9:45, 10:30, 11:15	July 23th (Sun.) – Sands Dock 9:00, 10:00, 11:00, 12:00
February 4th (Sat.) – Sands Dock 9:00, 10:00, 11:00, 12:00, 1:00, 2:00, 3:00	August 19th (Sat.) – Alsdorf Park 8:30, 9:15, 10:00, 10:45
March 11th & 12th (Sat./Sun.) – Sands Dock 9:00, 10:00, 11:00, 12:00, 1:00, 2:00, 3:00 9:00, 10:00, 11:00	September 9th (Sat.) – Sands Dock 9:00, 10:00, 11:00, 12:00, 1:00, 2:00, 3:00
April 8th (Sat.) – Sands Dock 9:00, 10:00, 11:00, 12:00, 1:00, 2:00, 3:00	October 14th (Sat.) – Sands Dock 9:00, 10:00, 11:00, 12:00, 1:00, 2:00, 3:00
May 20th (Sat.) – Sands Dock 9:00, 10:00, 11:00, 12:00, 1:00, 2:00, 3:00	November 12th (Sun.) – Alsdorf Park 9:00, 9:45, 10:30, 11:15
June 10th (Sat.) – Sands Dock 9:00, 10:00, 11:00, 12:00	December 2nd (Sat.) – Sands Dock 9:00, 10:00, 11:00, 12:00

HILLSBORO LIGHTHOUSE MUSEUM IS ENLIGHTENING TOURIST AND LOCALS!



The museum is located at: **Hillsboro Inlet Park, A1A at 2700 N. Ocean Boulevard, Pompano Beach**. It is open Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday - 10:00 am until 2:00 pm. It is also open on Tour days from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. On most other days you can arrange a private tour by contacting Jerry or Linda at: museum@hillsborolighthouse.org or by phone 954-609-7974.

We are very proud of our loyal volunteers, Jerry Smietanka, Linda Peck, Cindy Malaney, and Mona Silverstein who keep the Museum open every week. If you are interested in helping out for a 2 hour time slot, please contact Jerry or Linda at museum@hillsborolighthouse.org or 954-609-7974.

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE (CONT FROM PAGE 2)

February 11th. This year's meeting will be free to all members and will be held on Pompano Beach at Atlantic Boulevard, Pavilion #2, just across from new public parking garage. There will be free food, drink and festivities for all members. We moved it to February to accommodate our members from the north, who often can't attend the meeting later in the year. We made it free so everyone can attend and help support the organization and celebrate another successful year. As usual, we will be sending out an email about this event about a month prior to the date and will be updating our website with all the details. We hope to see you there.

Ken Herman, President, HLPS

JUDY KNOEBEL (CONTINUED)

teered as the manager of the Hillsboro Lighthouse Museum since its opening in 2011. She also served as a distinguished board member since 2016. But this service, by no means, was not her first, nor only, in the volunteer arena.

Judy gave tours at the Bonnet House in Fort Lauderdale. "As I drive six visitors around in a golf cart type vehicle, we enjoyed the 37 acres of nature and watching the people and the monkeys," she said.

The Pompano Beach Historical Society was a natural draw for Judy where she served over 10 years as a volunteer and seven years as treasurer of the Society. On Saturday mornings, Judy could be found at the Historical Society Green Market tent, greeting visitors with her wide smile. And it was at the tent that she sold Florida farm nuts, jellies and jams to support the Society. She was part of the Society's team to find and tape oral histories from pioneers.

Judy sat on the Pompano Beach Historic Preservation Board, a group that identified, documented and registered historic buildings and places to preserve for future generations.

At the time of her interview, she had volunteered 1,600 hours at Insight for the Blind as a reader and recorder of magazines and books.

Children were also recipients of Judy's outreach. In conjunction with the Broward Library System's Prime Time Reading Program, she read to preschoolers.

Judy is survived by 2 brothers, 4 nieces, 3 nephews, 3 great-nieces and 2 great-nephews. She is predeceased by a sister.

Anne Siren—The Pompano Pelican

HLPS Store Now Online!

<http://www.hillsborolighthouse.org/store>

LIGHTHOUSE LINKS

- Hillsboro Lighthouse Preservation Society: HillsboroLighthouse.org
- Florida Lighthouse Association: FloridaLighthouses.org
- Florida Keys Reef Lights Foundation: ReefLights.org
- Florida Trust for Historic Preservation: FloridaTrust.org
- National Trust for Historic Preservation: PreservationNation.org

110TH ANNIVERSITY GALA DINNER—MARCH 10, 2017 (CONTINUED)

Only 400 tickets will be sold! Purchase tickets online at: <http://hillsborogala.eventbrite.com>. Alternatively you can visit <http://www.hillsborolighthouse.org/> to purchase your tickets using the PayPal link or send your check payable to HLPS to: Linda Peck, C/O HLPS, 2081 NE 27th St, Lighthouse Point, Florida 33064.

Silent Auction Donations Needed!

If you have something you can donate to our silent auction or the event, Please call or text Debbie Divich, at 786.251.0811 or email her at steviencks@aol.com. Pickup can be arranged.

Possible items are: Nautical Art work, gift cards, dinner certificates, Jewelry, weekend getaways, boating or nautical items, rods and reels, high end luggage or handbags, antiques, gift certificates, car rentals, liquor, wine, champagne, computers, digital devices, memberships, boating items, fishing items, vacations, any unique item that we could auction off. We also need items for the Full Moon Gala (nautical centerpieces, fresh flowers, liquor, wine, and champagne).

Additional Event Information:

- Cocktail Attire (Black & White Theme)
- To climb the tower, all guests must wear closed-toed shoes (no heels).
Ladies, be sure to bring your ballet flats!
- Parking at the Pompano Beach Parking Garage 275 Sea Breeze Way (between A1A & Pompano Beach Blvd.) with Trolley shuttle to the Lighthouse. Leave the driving to us!
- Watch the full moon rise as we chauffeur you to the Lighthouse.
- Enjoy a Cocktail Hour with Appetizers (includes a glass of wine/cash bar will be available)
- Dinner (catered by Hugh's Culinary)
- Dancing to Earl's Trio (60's, 70's & 80's music)
- Silent auction (Preview at www.hillsborolighthouse.org)
- Nighttime Lighthouse Tours
- Special Tours of the Lens Room

Seating is limited so RSVP today: <http://hillsborogala.eventbrite.com>

LIGHTHOUSE COTTAGE E-AUCTION

"Early Bidding for an Opportunity of a Lifetime"

TO WIN A RARE TWO-NIGHT STAY FOR THE GALA EVENT!

IN A LIGHTHOUSE KEEPER COTTAGE AT HILLSBORO LIGHTHOUSE INLET

Check In: MARCH 10 @ NOON, Check out: MARCH 12 @ 11 AM

PRE EVENT BIDDING MINIMUM: \$1,500

INCLUDES: COTTAGE #2 – 2 NIGHTS, 3 BEDROOM, SLEEPS 7, PRIVATE TOUR OF THE LENS ROOM

ONCE BIDS ESTABLISHED, MIN BID INCREASE WILL BE \$50

COTTAGE AUCTION WILL CLOSE 6 PM ON WEDNESDAY, 3/8/2017

PLEASE EMAIL YOUR BID TO: President@HillsboroLighthouse.org

WINNER CONFIRMED BY 8 PM 3/8/2017, HLPS PRESIDENT WILL CONTACT YOU!, WINNIG BIDDER MUST ABIDE BY COAST GUARD RULES AND REGULATIONS., NO USE OF CLUB PROPERTY

NEW MEMBERS & RENEWALS— JANUARY 2016 TO MAY 2016**Join today to help preserve our lighthouse's heritage and receive these benefits:**

- A subscription to our newsletter "The Big Diamond"
- Free admission to all tours, programs, and lectures for the membership period
- Timely updates to events related to the lighthouse

Membership rates:

Individual	\$25.00 / year
Family	\$50.00 / year
Business	\$100.00 / year
Lifetime	\$500.00 or more. Lifetime is a one-time fee

To apply or for more information , please contact: membership@hillsborolighthouse.org

Sharon Agri	Anna DelPozzo	Diana Howard
Sharon Andersen	Scott Depree	Theodore D. Howard, Jr.
Eren Anderson	Michael Desztich	Richard Interranle
Thomas F. Anderson	Karin Dewey	Rick Iossi
Vincent & Lita Andreano	Rosangela Dias	Jerry Jabaay
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Danielle Arnold	Christopher Downs	Jeanne Johnson
Dawn Baker	Susan Dressler	Jean Jones
Greg Baxter	Blair Dunne	Susanne Joseph
Adrianne Bell	Pedro Duran	Terese Kalenak
Susan Benak	Jonathan Edens	Kristen Karter
Amanda H. Benbow	Wayne Emory *	Lisa Kelley-Musco
Michael Bittner	Deborah Ethridge	Abigail Kelly
Deborah Bjorndalen	Jodi Fairchild	Jacqueline Kern
Richard Boggs	Alexandra Fernandez	Peter King
Richard Boggs	Jessica Fiallo	Lisa Kraus
Margaretha Bonarto	Maria Figueroa	Jarmilla Kubikova
Ken & Becky Bonawitz	Andrew & Katie From	Richard Lamberson
Shannon Booty	Nancy Gardner	Two Men and a Truck *
L J Bordelon	David Gebert	Albert & June Liptay
Tammy Borden	Norm Getcs	Connie Liu
Esmeralda Botello	Genwa Ghanem	Jonathan Lobl
Ted & Rita Brady	Palm Tree Doctor *	Michael Loftus
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Patrick Brill	Gabriella Gonzalez	Mann Family
Bennett & Pamela Brooks	Johnnie Goodnight	Stephanie March
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Keilk Chapman	Denise Gutierrez	Janett McMillan
Carol Chisholm	Marco Gutierrez	Rita Medeiros
Thomas Christos	Melanie Hale	Jeff Mersman
Colleen Coate	Barbara Haley	CK Miller
Mike & Kris Coe	Jessica Hall	Linda Miller
Mary Rose Coleman	Jeffrey & Mary Lou Hamilton	Dominic Monaco
Danielle Colwell	Cherise Hamm	Marjorie Morales
Jane Congdon	Carl Hannold	Joe / Carol Mott
Cheryl Cook	Mary Hannon	Lizette Mueller
Dan Cook	Jamie Henderson	Jeff & Kathy Myrick
Gayle Corso	Amy Hersh	Connie Neilson
James / Bobbi Craig	Mark Hoffman	Lindsay Nelson
James Crawford	Kelly Hogan	Stacey Nielsen
Chantal Cudre	Linda Hogan	Pat Noble
Will & Jane Davison	Craig & Laurie Holmes	John & Linda Nuttall
Mark Decker	Susie M. Holstein	Larry Orr
Robert Decker	Virginie Houle	John Page

NEW MEMBERS & RENEWALS— JANUARY 2016 TO MAY 2016 (CONT)

Craig / Ann Parrish	Giovanna Rodriguez	Rebecca Thacker
Cynthia Patton	Robert Rolston	Jeffrey Thomas *
Anderson Lysen Peabody	Elizabeth Rosenberg	Stephen Thomas
Jill Pearce	Laurie Ross	Jenna Ulbrich
Charles Peel	Javier Santa-Cruz	Vague
Gary Pietrocarlo	Holly Schneider	Larry Vandermeulen
Melissa Pollock	Charles Schultz	Richard Vinson
Dave Porfiri	Betty Schulz	Eric W. Vogel
TJ Prefontaine	Knights of Columbus *	Peter & Beth Vogl **
Heather Preusse	Chris Shroyer	Sandra Von Staden
Paula Pukys	Leona Silgado	Daniela Watson
Melina Quintar-Moore	Susan Sloan	Amy Wayne
Mercedes Ragoonanan	Van Sorrells	Bert Welage
Jenny Ramos	Kim Spencer	Edward W. White
Jacqueline Randolph	Eileen Spiegler	Jody Wilken
Carlos Ricas	Pamela Stratton	Ryan Williams
Daniel Rieger	Golden Passport Photos *	Courtney Wilson
Kim Riehn	Barbara Sussman	Sean & Heather Yates
Daniel Robb	Karen Sweeting	Brian / Gilda-Jo Youngblood
George & Doris Rodormer	Michelle Taylor	

MONETARY AND OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS

Mr. & Mrs. Arthur Brooks
 Executive Printing & Mailing Services
 Mr. & Mrs. George Rodormer
 Mr. & Mrs. Hib Casselberry In Memory of Bud Garner
 Freda Logan In Memory of Bud Garner
 Linda Schaller In Memory of Judy Knoebel
 Misc. \$135.

BEN STONE — BY RALPH KRUGLER

Benjamin F. Stone was an Assistant Keeper at Cape Canaveral Light Station prior to coming to Hillsboro (just like Thomas Knight before him). However when he moved his family down they brought along a very “special” member of the family. His name was Joe. What made Joe so special? Well he was an alligator.

Annie Stone (Ben’s wife) had driven a dirt road 25 miles to Cocoa Beach for groceries and Joe crossed her path. Joe fell into an old pit and couldn’t get out. Instead of just driving on and forgetting about him, she made Ben go back and him Joe out. After getting him out, Ben brought Joe back to the Lighthouse and made a cage for him. Joe became another member of the pet side of the family that included chickens, gopher tortoise, possums and more.

When Ben was transferred to Hillsboro, he loaded up the family belongings on a trailer. Joe was right there, strapped on the back... from Cape Canaveral to Hillsboro via US 1.

At Hillsboro Ben made him a cement pool with running water and got something that he didn’t get at isolated Cape Canaveral Light Station, visitors. In fact, Joe became quite the attraction, drawing interest from locals who never were face to face with a 10-foot gator.

When the Coast Guard took over control of the Lighthouse Service, Joe was sent to an alligator farm where he lived in retirement.

(From 2007 Capt. Fred Stone – oldest son of Benjamin – article for HLPS)



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Painting by: JERZY SMIETANKA